



CDC Newsroom

HHS Delivers Funding to Expand Testing Capacity for States, Territories, Tribes

Press Release

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The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is delivering \$11 billion in new funding to support testing for COVID-19. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will provide \$10.25 billion to states, territories, and local jurisdictions through CDC's existing Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Prevention and Control of Emerging Infectious Diseases (ELC) cooperative agreement. The Indian Health Service (IHS) will provide \$750 million to IHS, tribal, and urban Indian Health programs to expand testing capacity and testing-related activities. A detailed allocation and distribution methodology will be announced for the IHS funds in the coming days. This funding is part of the Trump Administration's broader effort to ensure that states, territories, and tribes have the resources necessary to meet their testing goals as they begin to reopen.

This funding from the Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act will provide critical support to develop, purchase, administer, process, and analyze COVID-19 tests, conduct surveillance, trace contacts, and related activities. These funds, along with the previous funding support CDC and IHS provided, will help states, tribes, and territories with their efforts to re-open America.

"This funding secured by President Trump for state, tribal, and local public health activities is a historic investment in America's ability to track and control the spread of the virus, which is essential to a safe reopening," said HHS Secretary Alex Azar. "For the sake of all Americans' health and well-being, we must help Americans get safely back to work and school, and that requires continued expansion of testing, surveillance, and contact tracing. The Trump Administration stands ready to support and guide states in their life-saving work to combat the virus and reopen our country."

"As the Nation cautiously begins the phased approach to reopening, this considerable investment in expanding both testing and contact tracing capacity for states, localities, territories and tribal communities is essential," said CDC Director Robert R. Redfield, MD. "Readily accessible testing is a critical component of a four-pronged public health strategy – including rigorous contact tracing, isolation of confirmed cases, and quarantine. As communities move toward a blended mitigation and containment strategy, I encourage all Americans to continue to embrace powerful public health measures – social distancing, hand washing and face coverings. We are not defenseless in the battle against this pandemic."

“These resources will greatly expand testing capacity at federal, tribal, and urban Indian organization facilities throughout the Indian health system,” said IHS Director Rear Adm. Michael Weahkee. “Testing is critical to our public health response as we work to defeat this pandemic.”

Each Governor or designee of each State, locality, territory, tribe, or tribal organization receiving funds shall submit to HHS its plan for COVID-19 testing, including goals for the remainder of calendar year 2020, to include:

- Number of tests needed, month-by-month to include diagnostic, serological, and other tests, as appropriate
- Month-by-month estimates of laboratory and testing capacity, including related to workforce, equipment and supplies, and available tests
- Description of how the resources will be used for testing, including easing any COVID-19 community mitigation policies

Jurisdictions will use the funding they receive to meet the testing goals laid out in their COVID-19 testing plans, including purchasing supplies (such as test kits and other testing supplies, as necessary).

To view the list of funding recipients, please visit [here](#) .

For more information about CDC’s ongoing support to States, please visit this CDC website:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/open-america/index.html>

For more information about how IHS is responding to COVID-19 in Indian Country, please visit this IHS website:

<https://www.ihs.gov/coronavirus/> 

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Content source: [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)